

Message Text

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45

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 SAM-01 /087 W

----- 037420

R 161434Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4936

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 3159

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: WA, PGOV, PINT

SUBJ: NAMIBIA: PROGRESS ON CONSTITUTION PREDICTED

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. DIRK MUDGE, CHAIRMAN OF SPECIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF TURNHALLE
CONFERENCE CHARGED WITH DEVELOPING OUTLINES OF CONSTITUTION
FOR AN INDEPENDENT SOUTH WEST AFRICA, TOLD PRESSMEN JULY 14 THAT HE

EXPECTED SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS WHEN MEETINGS RESUME
AUGUST 3. THOUGH IT SEEMED UNLIKELY THAT CONFERENCE COULD
PRODUCE FINISHED WORK, MUDGE THOUGHT DEGREE OF PROGRESS WOULD
BE SUFFICIENT TO SATISFY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THAT MEANINGFUL
ADVANCES BEING MADE. END UNCLASSIFIED

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2. DEPT FOR AF OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR SWA AFFAIRS, EKSTEEN, TOLD POL COUNS HE DEPARTING FOR WINDTTEK JULY 15 AND EXPECTED TO BE THERE ABOUT TEN DAYS. HE INTIMATED THAT IMPORTANT DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE HELD WITH VIEW TO DEVELOPING SAGS POSITION VIS-A-VIS AUGUST 31 "DEADLINE." HE HAD NO COMMENT ON NEWS REPORTS ORIGINATING IN LONDON AND US TO EFFECT THAT CLEMENS KAPUUN, LEADER OF HERERO DELEGATION, MIGHT BE BEING GROOMED FOR TOP POSITION IN SOME FORM OF INTERIM GOVERNMENT OR ADMINISTRATION.

3. COMMENT: DESPITE RUMORS THAT SAG MIGHT MOVE TO ESTABLISH SOME KIND OF TRANSITIONAL REGIME IN SWA, AND BELIEF AMONG CONFEREES THAT AN INTERIM ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD, (CAPE TOWN 0754) THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL GAP IN CONCEPTS. DELEGATES SEEM UNLIKELY TO ACCEPT SOMETHING THAT AMOUNTS ONLY TO A GESTURE WITHOUT SOME SUBSTANTIAL SHIFT OF

AUTHORITY FROM SAG ADMINISTRATORS TO ANY NEW ESTABLISHMENT, SINCE IT WOULD SEVERELY DAMAGE THE CREDIBILITY THEY SEEK.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PRETOR03159
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760275-0325
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760750/aaaabrj.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: PROGRESS ON CONSTITUTION PREDICTED BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, WA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006